



THE SOUTH DAKOTA *LEGIONETTE*

Serving Veterans, their Families and their Communities

A Word from the President

by Mary Jo Stier Department President



S.M.I.L.E

March brought a lot of traveling throughout the department. Over the past three weekends, I have had the opportunity to attend six of the eight district meetings. Let me tell you, the turn out for each of the meetings have been fantastic.

My Uber, (aka my husband) and I began our traveling adventures heading to Ethan for the District 6 meeting. Theresa and her team put together a wonderful meeting. We met at the catholic church which has since been converted to the community center. It was the perfect place for a meeting. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Theresa for her dedication over the past four years to District 6. We will miss you on the executive committee but look forward to having Lanelle Quam join us.

On Sunday, we traveled to Colome for the District 3 meeting. With this being my district, I had the opportunity to travel with District 3 President Marla Mosiman along with other Legion family members. I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the Colome Unit for setting up to host the meeting (this was due to construction work not being completed at the Gregory Post). That is what I call teamwork.

The second weekend, we headed farther east to Valley Springs. Kudos to District 7 President Noelle Bonjour and her executive committee on a productive meeting with a wonderful turnout. On Sunday, we traveled to Marion for the District 8 meeting. Ruth Williams conducted her last meeting as district president. While she was leery to take on the position, she went out of her comfort zone and served the district with grace and dignity. Thank you, Ruth, for your service.

The third weekend, we headed north for the District 4 and 5 meetings. On Saturday, we rolled into the little town of Stratford for the District 4 meeting. District 6 also saw an election of officers. Jan was elected as president again. We are grateful for your service and look forward to the next two years. Sunday brought us to Big Stone City. Due to District President Wendy Henley's medical condition, she was not able to lead the meeting. Thank you to Mary Jo Boner and Marsha Timm for stepping up and filling in for Wendy. The meeting was very well attended. (cont. p.6)

Patriotism in the Classroom

Becky Booth went to the Timber Lake school to listen to the Kindergartners recite the Pledge of Allegiance and explained to them its importance and significance. They all did a fantastic job and proudly belted out every single word. They were so excited to take home their very own flag.

Pictured are the kindergarten classes who received the flags and book-marks donated by the American Legion Auxiliary of Isabel, Unit 120 and Timber Lake Unit 83.



Happy 100th Birthday, Beth



Beth Bowar was honored for her 65 plus years of membership in the Faulkton Auxiliary Unit 102 and her 100th birthday. Left to right are her daughter Peg, Jan Hadrick, membership chairman and president Karen Collins.

Happy 100th Birthday, Florence



This past December, one of our Auxiliary members celebrated her 100th birthday in style! The town had a car parade for Florence Krege lead by the Columbia Fire Department, on Saturday the 11th. We posted birthday wishes on her lawn and her family and friends invited the community to a special birthday party in our Legion Hall on her birthday - December 12th. Florence is a 65 year member of the Roy L. Hall Post #58 American Legion Auxiliary.

April Guide

April 2: District 2 Spring Meeting - Rosebud Veterans Affairs Bldg. 11:30 social, noon meal, meeting at 1:00 pm.

April 3: District 1 Spring Meeting - Sturgis Vets Club 868 Main Street, 10:30 social, 11:00 am meal, 11:45 introductions followed by the meeting

April 15: Year end reports are due to the district presidents

April 14 - 15: Purple up for the Military Child

April 17: Easter

April 17-23: National Volunteer week

MONTH OF THE
MILITARY CHILD



Dictionaries

Timber Lake ALA Unit #83 and Isabel Unit #120 donated dictionaries to all the third graders in Timber Lake School. The pictures of Kristin Long and Paige Bakken 3rd grade classrooms that received the dictionaries. This was done November 10, 2021. Pictured with both classes is Kris Hermes, administrative assistant at the Timber Lake School, who is also the treasurer of Unit 83.



In Memoriam

Unit 3 Chamberlain – Judy Hoellein, March 2022; **Unit 11 Wagner** – Janet Koupal, February 2022; **Unit 21 Hurley** – Marilyn Jorgensen, December 2020; **Unit 36 Bonesteete** – Jean Bailey, August 2021; **Unit 40 Webster** – Hazel Syhre, February 2022; **Unit 50 Sisseton**, Mildred Opitz, December 2021; Marjorie Eide, February 2022; Linda Hoss, February 2022; Lavonne Grimsrud, March 2022; **Unit 59 Wolsey** – Verla Lindblad, February 2022; Mary Houck, November 2021; **Unit 69 Doland** – Bonnie Barz, January 2022; **Unit 71 Hot Springs** – Marjo Maple, November 2021; Charline Duncan, December 2021; **Unit 77 Blunt** – Thelma Kig, February 2022; Mildred Adams, April 2021; **Unit 81 Toronto** – Doris Anderson, December 2021; Lela Feuerborn, October 2021; **Unit 93 Lechter** – Sally Olson, January 2022; **Unit 118 Hartford** – Georgia Viereck, February 2022; **Unit 129 Waubay** – Genevia Bisgard, January 22; **Unit 135 Gettysburg** – Sharon Archer, December 2021; Mildred Tanner, February 2022; **Unit 148 Conde** – Hazel Reeve, January 2022; **Unit 159 Hoven** – Eileen Beitelspacher, January 2022; **Unit 169 Winner** – Dorothy Berger, January 2022; **Unit 171 Strandburg** – Helen Carlson, February 2022; **Unit 172 Edgemont** – Lucille Decker, January 2022; **Unit 179 Kennebec-Reliance** – Viola Reuer, February 2022; **Unit 186 Eureka** – Bernice Oster, January 2022; Bernice Rau, January 2022; **Unit 198 Elkton** – Norma Lynn, January 2022; **Unit 237 Gayville** – Liz Fiedler, June 2020; Mary Buckman, March 2021; **Unit 240 Martin** – Fern Boomer, January 2022; Monica Weaver, January 2022; **Unit 260 Badger** – Elaine Anderson, November 2021; **Unit 272 Pollock** – Betty Steiger, October 2021; Marjorie Johnson, February 2022; **Unit 278 Colman** – Patricia Broghammer, December 2021

Membership

by Rose Kraft, Dept. Membership Chairman

Our membership continues to bloom just as these beautiful Spring days. As a department ,we continue to stay in the top 10 of the nation with our membership. We have met the goal of 90% before April 1st with time to spare and are very close to 91% at 90.97% in membership! (You are now hearing thunderous applause!)

Unit 500 is at 92.03% and we wanted as many units as we could to be past this by the reading of this Legionette. Ninety-two units have met this goal along with Districts 4 and 7. District 4 continues to lead the pack; will they be the first District to be at 100% this year – only 72 members to go! We have Mother's Day coming up soon and that puts us to my next goal – we want to be past 95% by Mother's Day. Yes, the whole Department! I just think of each of the mothers who said goodbye to their child then prayed for their safe return. Let's remember them and see how many mothers we can get to join in the next month.

All I have to say as far as “Staying in Tune with Our Veterans” is “God Bless America” and God Bless YOU! Thank you for working this mission.

Top 44 units in the state of South Dakota are: Bullhead, DeSmet, Sioux Falls 15, Sioux Falls 911, Bowdle, Parkston, Aurora, Piedmont, Avon, Midland, White Lake, Elkton, Salem, Hurley, Groton, Mellette, Selby, Conde, Cresbard, Wessington, Wilmot, Castlewood, Tripp, Wakonda, Presho, Fairfax, Herrick, Columbia, Claremont, White, Volga, Big Stone City, Wessington Springs, Woonsocket, Arlington, Ethan, Iroquois, Garretson, Trent, Hudson, Chester, Worthing, and Colman.

Give 10 to Education



Deanna Branaugh with the American Legion Auxiliary Yankton Unit Roy Anderson #12. Deanna Branaugh awarded Ten of Something to the students at Lincoln Elementary School. Pictured is Mr. Tony Beste, Principal and members of the Student Council.

ALA Department Secretary - Position

The South Dakota American Legion Auxiliary is looking to hire a full time Department Secretary to carry out the duties of care in the best interests of the South Dakota ALA membership.

Responsibilities will include but not limited to:

- Be the point of contact for the members of the Auxiliary
- Answering phone calls and directing them to the Department Chairman
- Opening the mail
- Maintaining calendar and making appointments, making room arrangements
- Filing
- Various other related duties

Qualifications:

- High School Diploma or GED
- 3 years experience
- Ability to multitask
- Excellent time management skills
- Proficient in Word, Excel, QuickBooks
- Discrete and people skills
- Organization skills

Please submit a resume with references, along with a business plan which includes a location for Department Headquarters (cannot be in a home) and the associated costs to PO Box 224, Onida, SD 57564. For more information, please contact Department President Mary Jo Stier at sdalamjs@gmail.com. Closing date is April 15,

Endorsements

Members of the Piedmont Valley American Legion Unit #311 are proud to announce the candidacy of **Laura 'Susie' Clyde** for the office of National Historian 2022-2023.

The members of Sully Unit #79 in Onida, South Dakota proudly endorse **Mary Jo Stier** for the office of National Executive Committeeman (NEC) for 2022-2024.

Arthur Peterson Chester ALA Unit #136 is proud to endorse **Joyce Smith** for Department of South Dakota President for 2022-2023.

Pierre ALA Unit #8 is proud to endorse **Patsy Madsen** for Dept. of South Dakota First Vice President for 2022-2023.

Alcester ALA Unit #86 of Alcester, proudly endorses **AnnaMae Warnier** as a candidate for the American Legion Auxiliary Dept. of South Dakota Second Vice President for 2022-2023.

Members of Mitchell Unit 18, proudly endorse **Linda Holmes** for the ALA Dept. of South Dakota Historian for 2022-2023

Members of District 6 proudly endorse **Sharon Broghammer** for the ALA Dept. of South Dakota Chaplain for 2022-2023.

Department Convention Watertown Friday, June 17 - Sunday, June 19, 2022

Advance Ticket Form TAL Joint Family Banquet

All American Legion Family (Legion, Auxiliary, SAL) Friday, June 17, 2022

NO TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE EVENT

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

American Legion Joint Family Banquet –

Social 6:00 PM with meal at 7:00 PM

Choose 1: ___ Yankee Pot Roast ___ Pan Seared Chicken Breast
Slow cooked savory roast beef with house gravy or boneless chicken breast.
Served with House garden salad, choice of starch, vegetable, house bread & butter.

Fresh brewed coffee

Number of tickets requested at \$35.00 per ticket _____

(___) Check box for special dietary needs and list needs with your check.

Send to: American Legion Auxiliary

P.O. Box 1432

Watertown, SD 57201

Deadline is May 25, 2022

Advance Ticket Form Auxiliary Saturday Evening

All American Legion Auxiliary, Saturday, June 18, 2022

NO TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE EVENT

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

American Legion Auxiliary Evening Banquet –

Social 5:00 PM with Meal at 5:30 PM

Choose 1: ___ Roasted Pork Loin or ___ Chicken Asparagus
Alfredo Penne

Served with house garden salad with assorted dressings, Chef's choice of starch,
Vegetable, house bread with butter, fresh brewed coffee

Number of tickets requested at \$30.00 per ticket _____

(___) Check box for special dietary needs and list needs with your check

Make checks payable to Codington County Auxiliary Unit 17

Send to: American Legion Auxiliary

P.O. Box 1432

Watertown, SD 57201

Advance Ticket Form Noon Luncheon

All American Legion Auxiliary, Saturday, June 18, 2022

NO TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE EVENT

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Soup & Sandwich Saturday, June 18, 2022, 12:00pm –

Choose 1: ___ 1/2 Turkey ___ 1/2 Chicken Salad ___ 1/2 Caesar Wrap

Served with Vegetable Beef Soup

Number of tickets requested at \$15.00 per ticket _____

(___) Check box for special dietary needs and list needs with your check

Send to: American Legion Auxiliary

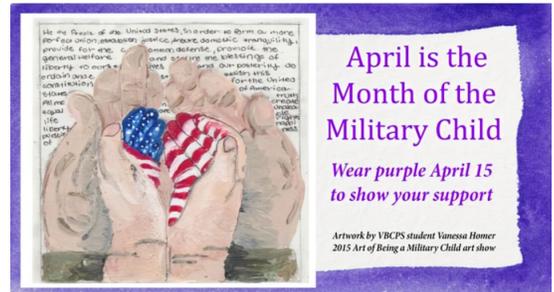
P.O. Box 1432

Watertown, SD 57201

Deadline is May 25, 2022

Children & Youth 2022 by Dept. Chairman Alice Upshaw

Military Child Month – April



You can go to the militarychild.org/MOMC toolkit to obtain the toolkit to help promote Military Child month. There are other things that you can do to help promote Military Child month.

Purple up for kids to help celebrate them by wearing purple on April 14th

Facebook has a profile picture frame that you can use to help support your military children

Call for Arts as this year's theme is **Celebration**. Encourage military-connected student to provide their drawings, poetry, and or photography that celebrates their life as a military-connected student.

Use the hashtag on social media. #MilKidStrong to recognize a military connected child in your community and share their story; #MOMC and #MonthoftheMilitaryChild for discussions throughout the month and #PurpleUp for promotion and celebration of Purple Up Day in your area.

We will be introducing Project Stuff Sack. This project, conceived by your ALA Children & Youth committee and is funded a 2021 Child Welfare Foundation grant, will give each department the opportunity to participate in a Children & Youth activity.

Purpose: For each of us to make a difference for children by gifting them comfort items, toys, and supplies.

Goal: Encourage activism in all American Legion Auxiliary departments to support children in their community. To help engage in a project that benefits children and youth.

If you would like to have some information ahead of time, please get in touch with me.

To date the American Legion Auxiliary has donated over \$30K to the Child Welfare Foundation. WAY to go! The deadline to donate to the Child Welfare Foundation is May 31, 2022 so there is still time.

Let's keep getting those Youth Hero awards & Good Deed awards going. Let me know if anyone has given out any of the Youth Care Giver awards. This is a great way to keep recognizing what our youth are doing. If there are any pictures that you would like me to forward onto National please get them to me so South Dakota can have a huge shout out in the next Midwest newsletter.

Thank you

Alice M Upshaw

SD ALA Children & Youth



Juniors Corner

The Clark American Legion Auxiliary Junior members, Grace Olson, Eloise Olson and Scarlett Olson delivered cards and decorative gnomes they made to the 2 Assisted Living facilities and 1 Nursing Home in Clark for "Make A Difference Day" in October 2021.



National Volunteer Week April 17-23, 2022

National Volunteer Week is an opportunity to recognize the impact of volunteer service and the power of volunteers to tackle society's greatest challenges, to build stronger communities and be a force that transforms the world. Each year, we shine a light on the people and causes that inspire us to serve, recognizing and thanking volunteers who lend their time, talent, and voice to make a difference in their communities.

Heartfelt 
THANKS
TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

National Volunteer Week was established in 1974 and has grown exponentially each year, with thousands of volunteer projects and special events scheduled throughout the week. Today, as people strive to lead lives that reflect their values, the expression of civic life has evolved. Whether online, at the office, or the local food bank; whether with a vote, a voice, or a wallet – doing good comes in many forms, and we recognize and celebrate them all.

School Staff Appreciation



Timber Lake ALA Unit #83 and Isabel ALA Unit #120 provided the staff at Timber Lake School with baskets of candy in appreciation of all the work they do for our students.

Give 10 to Education

Members of the Spearfish Unit #164 gave monetary donations, gift cards, and school supplies to prepare 4 baskets for the Spearfish schools grades Kindergarten through 5th grade. A total of \$350 was shared between the four schools. A thank you card with a Walmart gift card was added to each basket: "Thank you for your ongoing dedication to our local youth." One counselor said that many kids were on their last crayons and pencils were needed. The Walmart gift cards brought smiles in each school. Pictured are Connie Turner, Connie Wagner, and Micheline Nelson. Not pictured is Charlene Kain.



Companion Cat



Unit #114 Volga donated an automated companion cat toy to Dakota Sun Assisted Living in Volga, SD where one of their members is a resident.





April Prayer

By Carol T. Robinson,
Nat'l. Chaplain

God of all creation, we thank you for the beauty and truth of everything You created. Guide us as we travel this earthy journey and do Your will to bring all our brothers and sisters closer to You. Amen

Spring is a time for growth, meaning God wants us to prosper, reflect on where we are, and where we are going. Are we growing in our spiritual lives?
“That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither— whatever they do prospers”
Psalm 1:3 (NIV)



BE IN THE KNOW

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Regina Whipple

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southdakotaala@gmail.com

Visit the SD ALA Website at
www.sdlegionaux.org

Subscribe to the South Dakota Legionette. (Form on the website)
Send your news and pictures to the editor at Micheline.Nelson@live.com or mail them.

For reporting an error on names or addresses, change of addresses and deceased members, email or call headquarters first. Thank you!

From Winner: Cookies & Good Deed

Winner American Legion Auxiliary makes cookies and gives them to Winner High School teams going to state tournaments. The total amount of cookies this year was 1,632 which comes to 136 dozen. Legion auxiliary members from left are Elaine Coonrod, Jeanette Sprengle, Judy Wilcox, Joan Hauf, Sharon Hiemstra and Liz Farley.

The Winner Elementary School received a national good deed award from the American Legion Auxiliary. The elementary students made place mats for the Veterans Day meal. Pictured in front from left are Caleb White Mouse, Grace Barnes, Lucia Harris. In back from left are Joan Hauf of the Winner Legion auxiliary, Destiny Tracy, Joy Eagle Star, Keera Curry, Jori Fenenga, Kinley Meek and Liz Farley of the Legion auxiliary. The Legion Auxiliary has an award to be given to students who do outstanding projects.



Finance Committee Openings There are two openings on the SD ALA Finance Board for three-year terms. If you wish to apply, send a letter of intent stating why you want to serve on this board, your member ID number and resume with your experience with finances. Interviews will be held on June 16 at the Department Convention in Watertown. Mail to SD ALA Headquarters, PO Box 529, Clear Lake, SD 57226 no later than May 1, 2022.

A Word from the President (cont. from page 1)

I would like to express my gratitude to Wendy for serving as District 5 president over the past three years. Unfortunately, due to health concerns, Wendy resigned as district president. Congratulations and thank you to Mary Jo Boner on her appointment as president.

This leads me to one last weekend of meetings. This time, we head west to Rosebud and Sturgis. I am often asked if I get tired of all the traveling. My answer is sometimes yes but I would not change it for anything. I have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to go to these small communities in which I have never been to and to meet so many people. Thank you to all the units who have opened their doors and showed us how great small towns really are. *Dept. President Mary Jo Stier*



Due to the amount of information in the April edition, District Spring Meetings and 103rd American Legion Birthday pictures will be in the May edition of the South Dakota Legionette.

THE SOUTH DAKOTA LEGIONETTE

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Guess Who?



REMINDER!!!!
If you are a CHAIRMAN, District President or hold an officer, please get me your pictures ASAP (info on website to send your picture to me)!! So I can have sheets ready for state convention for everyone's guess!!

Each month there will be pictures submitted of Department Chairmen, Officers or District Presidents. The game is to guess who the picture is and whoever gets the most guesses correct gets something special. The reveal will be at State Convention!

Submitted by:
Stacie Mosiman, PR Chairman